COLLECTOR'S CORNER #81 APRIL 30, 1976
GEORGE MISHLER/MAH

"THREE RECENT STAMP ISSUES"
(NEW U.S. BULK MAIL STAMP: LIBERTY BELL STAMP & ISLE OF MAN STAMP FOR U.S. BICENTENNIAL)

ANNCR: AND NOW, COLLECTOR'S CORNER -- NOTES OF INTEREST FOR VOA LISTENERS WHO COLLECT THINGS... WHETHER THEY BE STAMPS OR COINS, SNUFF BOTTLES OR OLD AUTOS, OR JUST BALLS OF STRING. TODAY, A REPORT PREPARED BY GEORGE MISHLER ON TWO NEW U.S. ISSUES AND A STAMP ISSUED BY THE ISLE OF MAN TO COMMEMORATE THE AMERICAN BICENTENNIAL.

NARR: THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE HAS RECENTLY ISSUED A NEW 7.9-CENT COIL POSTAGE STAMP DESIGNED FOR USE BY BULK MAILERS HOLDING PRE-CANCEL PERMITS. THE STAMP -- ISSUED ON APRIL 23, IN MIAMI, FLORIDA -- MEETS THE NEW RATE FOR BULK MAIL WHICH WENT INTO EFFECT AT THE END OF 1975. THE STAMP IS AVAILABLE IN PRE-CANCELED FORM, BUT IT IS ALSO AVAILABLE IN UNCANCELED FORM TO MEET PHILATELIC REQUIREMENTS, AND CAN BE ORDERED FROM THE PHILATELIC SALES DIVISION, IN WASHINGTON, D.C. IT IS PRODUCED IN COILS OF FIVE HUNDRED AND THREE THOUSAND STAMPS AND BEARS THE WORDS "BULK RATE" AS PART OF THE DESIGN.

THE 7.9-CENT STAMP IS PART OF THE NEW AMERICANA SERIES OF REGULAR POSTAGE STAMPS. THE CENTRAL FEATURE OF THE DESIGN BY BERNARD GLASSMAN IS A DRUM UPON WHICH AN AMERICAN EAGE IS SUPERIMPOSED. IT IS A COMPOSITE REPRESENTATION OF SEVERAL TYPES OF DRUMS IN USE AT VARIOUS TIMES DURING THE PAST 200 YEARS. A PAIR OF

NARR: (CONT'D) DRUM STICKS APPEARS IN THE FOREGROUND. ACROSS THE BOTTOM AND UP THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE STAMP APPEAR THE WORDS "BEAT THE DRUM FOR LIBERTY AND THE SPIRIT OF '76." BETWEEN THE LETTERING AND THE BASE OF THE DRUM APPEARS "USA 7.9 CENTS" AND BELOW THE WORDS "BULK RATE."

THE IMAGE AREA IS 19.3 BY 21.8 MILIMETERS. THE STAMPS ARE PRINTED IN RED INK ON CANARY PAPER ON THE WEB MONOCOLOR INTAGLIO PRESS.

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JUST ABOUT FOUR WEEKS BEFORE THE NEW BULK MAIL STAMP WAS ISSUED, THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE PUT ON SALE -- IN LIBERTY, MISSOURI -- A NEW BOOKLET OF 13 CENT STAMPS FOR USE IN VENDING MACHINES. THE STAMP IS THE LIBERTY BELL ISSUE -- ANOTHER ONE IN THE AMERICANA SERIES, ORIGINALLY ISSUED IN THREE DIFFERENT BOOKLET FORMS ON OCTOBER 31, 1975.

THE NEW BOOKLET CONTAINS TWO PANES OF FIVE STAMPS EACH AND SELLS FOR $1.30. IN ADDITION TO THE FIVE STAMPS, EACH PANE CONTAINS A STAMP-SIZED SIXTH PIECE BEARING THE MESSAGE, "COLLECT STAMPS FOR THE FUN OF IT."

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THE ISLE OF MAN IS COMMEMORATING THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION BICENTENNIAL WITH A SERIES OF FOUR STAMPS HONORING COL. WILLIAM CHRISTIAN.

WILLIAM CHRISTIAN WAS THE SON OF MANXMAN ISRAEL CHRISTIAN AND HIS WIFE ELIZABETH STARK, WHO EMIGRATED TO VIRGINIA

NARR: (CONT'D) IN 1740. THEY SETTLED IN STAUNTON, AUGUSTA COUNTY WHERE THEY OPENED A GENERAL STORE AND HE BECAME A REPRESETATIVE IN THE THEN GOVERNING BODY, THE VIRGINIA HOUSE OF BURGESSES. ACCORDING TO AUGUSTA COUNTY RECORDS CHRISTIAN WAS THE FOUNDER OF THE TOWNS OF FINCASTLE AND CHRISTIANBURG.

WILLIAM CHRISTIAN WAS BORN IN 1743 AND HAD RISEN TO THE RANK OF CAPTAIN IN COL. WILLIAM BYRD'S REGIMENT BY THE TIME HE WAS TWENTY. FOUR YEARS LATER AS A STUDENT HE ENTERED THE LAW OFFICE OF AMERICAN PATRIOT PATRICK HENRY. HAD HE PAID AS MUCH ATTENTION TO HIS STUDIES AS HE DID TO PATRICK HENRY'S FAVORITE SISTER HE MIGHT HAVE HAD A SUCCESSFUL LEGAL CAREER. INSTEAD, THE TWO WERE MARRIED AND YOUNG CHRISTIAN WAS ELECTED TO THE LOWER HOUSE OF THE VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE. HE WENT ON TO SERVE IN THE UPPER HOUSE FROM 1776 TO 1783.

IN 1775 HE WAS A MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE OF TWELVE WHICH WAS APPOINTED TO PROVIDE PLANS FOR THE EXECUTION OF PATRICK HENRY'S FAMOUS RESOLUTIONS. OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE WERE GEORGE WASHINGTON AND THOMAS JEFFERSON.

CHRISTIAN COMMANDED A REGIMENT OF FINCASTLE MILITIA AND WAS APPOINTED LT. COL. OF THE FIRST VIRGINIA REGIMENT COMMANDED BY PATRICK HENRY.

WHEN THE FIRST VIRGINIA WAS INTEGRATED INTO THE CONTINENTAL ARMY HENRY WAS OFFERED THE COMMISSION OF COLONEL, BUT DID

NARR: (CONT'D) NOT ACCEPT, WHEREUPON CHRISTIAN WAS ELECTED BY THE CONGRESS INSTEAD.

CHRISTIAN RESIGNED HIS COMMISSION IN 1776 AND ACCEPTED A COMMISSION AS COLONEL OF MILITIA FROM THE VIRGINIA COUNCIL OF DEFENSE. HE LED A CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE MARAUDING CHEROKEE INDIANS WHICH LASTED ABOUT THREE MONTHS AND ENDED IN A TRUCE WITHOUT THE LOSS OF A SINGLE LIFE.

IN 1785, HE MOVED TO BEAR GRASS GREEK IN KENTUCKY, NEAR LOUISVILLE. ON APRIL 9, 1786, HE WAS KILLED NEAR THE PRESENT SITE OF JEFFERSONVILLE, INDIANA, WHILE LEADING A PERSUIT PARTY AGAINST THE WABASH INDIANS.

CHRISTIAN COUNTY, KENTUCKY, IS NAMED IN HIS HONOR. THE STAMPS TO BE ISSUED BY THE ISLE OF MAN POSTAL AUTHORITIES WILL BE IN 4 VALUES. THE 5 1/2-PENCE VALUE DEPICTS HIM LISTENING TO HIS BROTHER-IN-LAW ADDRESSING THE VIRGINIA ASSEMBLY PRESUMABLY IN HIS FAMOUS "GIVE ME LIBERTY OR GIVE ME DEATH" SPEECH. THE SEVEN-PENCE STAMP SHOWS HIM CARRYING THE FINCASTLE RESOLUTIONS TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS. HIS ARMY SERVICE WITH PATRICK HENRY IS DEPICTED ON THE 13 PENCE AND HIS ROLE AS AN INDIAN FIGHTER IS SHOWN ON THE 20 PENCE. A MINIATURE SHEET ACCOMPANIES THE ISSUE AND REPRODUCES ALL FOUR STAMPS.

ANNCR: YOU'VE BEEN LISTENING TO <u>COLLECTOR'S CORNER</u>, ANOTHER IN THE SERIES OF PROGRAMS FOR VOA LISTENERS WHO COLLECT

ANNCR: THINGS. FROM STAMPS TO BALLS OF STRING. JOIN US AGAIN NEXT ---------- (AT THIS TIME) FOR ANOTHER LOOK INTO THE ... COLLECTOR'S CORNER.

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